

1 KELLY T. WOOD
2 Assistant Attorney General
3 Washington Office of the Attorney General
4 Environmental Protection Division
5 800 5th Ave Ste. 2000 TB-14
6 Seattle, Washington 98104
7 (206) 326-5493

8 *Attorney for Plaintiff State of Washington*

9 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
10 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**

11 STATE OF WASHINGTON,

12 NO.

13 Plaintiff,

14 COMPLAINT

15 v.

16 CROWN RESOURCES
17 CORPORATION and KINROSS
18 GOLD U.S.A., INC.,

19 Defendants.

20 **I. INTRODUCTION**

21 1.1 Plaintiff, the State of Washington, by and through its attorneys
22 Robert W. Ferguson, Attorney General, and Kelly T. Wood, Assistant Attorney
23 General, brings this action against Defendants named below for violations of the
24 Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq.* and the Washington Water Pollution
25 Control Act, Chapter 90.48 RCW.

26 1.2 Crown Resources Corporation and Kinross Gold U.S.A., Inc.,
27 collectively Defendants, are—and have been for years—in violation of the

federal Clean Water Act and the state Water Pollution Control Act at a gold mine in Okanogan County, Washington (the Buckhorn Mine).

1.3 As set out below, Defendants have consistently disregarded the obligations of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Buckhorn Mine, to the detriment of the surrounding waters and in violation of Section 301(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), and Chapter 90.48 RCW. These harms adversely affect Washington and its residents by contaminating numerous waters in and around the Buckhorn Mine site. The State of Washington brings this action to end years of noncompliance by Defendants and to ensure the remediation of the waters degraded by Defendants as they exported gold from Washington state.

II. JURISDICTION

2.1 This action arises under the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1365. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over Clean Water Act claims under 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a). This Court also has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, as well as under the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 and 2202.

2.2 This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the State's Chapter 90.48 RCW claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1337(a).

1 2.3 The Clean Water Act authorizes citizen suits against “any person,”
 2 including the United States or its agencies, alleged to be in violation of an effluent
 3 standard or limitation. 33 U.S.C. §1365(a)(1). District courts have the authority
 4 to “enforce such an effluent standard or limitation … and to apply any appropriate
 5 civil penalties” 33 U.S.C. §1365(a). The State of Washington is a “citizen”
 6 authorized to sue under the Clean Water Act. *U.S. Dep’t of Energy v. Ohio*, 503
 7 U.S. 607, 614, 616 & nn.5, 9 (1992) (“A State is a ‘citizen’ under the CWA.”).

8
 9 2.4 Pursuant to the notice requirements in 33 U.S.C. § 1365(b)(1)(A),
 10 the Washington State Attorney General’s Office on March 5, 2020, notified
 11 Defendants of Washington’s intent to file suit to restrain or abate the violations
 12 described in this Complaint (Notice Letter). A copy of the Notice Letter is
 13 attached as Exhibit 1. Plaintiff notified the Managing Agent for Defendant Crown
 14 Resources, the Registered Agents of both Defendants, the Administrator of the
 15 United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Administrator of
 16 EPA Region 10, and the Director of the Washington State Department of Ecology
 17 (Ecology) of its intent to sue Defendants by mailing copies of the Notice Letter
 18 to these officials on March 5, 2020.
 19
 20
 21
 22

1 2.5 More than 60 days have passed since the Attorney General's office
 2 sent its Notice Letter. The conditions complained of are continuing, or are
 3 reasonably likely to continue to recur.

4 2.6 Neither the EPA nor Ecology is prosecuting a civil or criminal action
 5 in a court of the United States or a state to require compliance with the violations
 6 at issue in the current action.

7

8 **III. VENUE**

9 3.1 Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2)
 10 because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Washington's
 11 claims occurred within this judicial district. Venue is also proper in this Court
 12 pursuant to 33 U.S.C. §1365(c)(1) because the source of the discharge is located
 13 within this judicial district.

14

15 **IV. PARTIES**

16 4.1 Plaintiff is the State of Washington (State), a sovereign entity that
 17 brings this action to protect its own quasi-sovereign and proprietary rights. The
 18 State owns the groundwater and surface waters of the state, including the waters
 19 in and around the Buckhorn Mine. The State, through Ecology, is also responsible
 20 for promulgating Water Quality Standards designed to protect human health,
 21 aquatic life, and aesthetic and recreational uses of state waters, and to prevent

1 degradation of the state's waters. This action is brought pursuant to the Attorney
 2 General's independent constitutional, statutory, and common law authority to
 3 bring suit and obtain relief on behalf of the State based on impacts to the state's
 4 proprietary interests. This challenge is also brought pursuant to the Attorney
 5 General's authority to bring actions pursuant to Washington's interest, as *parens*
 6 *patriae*, in the general health and well-being of its residents.
 7

8 4.2 Defendant Crown Resources Corporation (Crown) is a Washington
 9 for-profit corporation with a principal office address of 363 Fish Hatchery Road,
 10 Republic in Washington.

11 4.3 Defendant Crown owns and operates a gold mine at Buckhorn
 12 Mountain in Okanogan County, Washington.

13 4.4 Defendant Kinross Gold U.S.A., Inc. (Kinross) is a foreign for-profit
 14 corporation registered to conduct business in Washington with a principal office
 15 address of 5075 South Syracuse Street, Floor 8, Denver, Colorado. Defendant
 16 Crown is a wholly owned subsidiary of Defendant Kinross Gold U.S.A., Inc.
 17

18 **V. STATUTORY BACKGROUND**

19 5.1 The Federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq., prohibits
 20 the discharge of pollutants by any person to waters of the United States, unless
 21 in compliance with the provisions of the Act. 33 U.S.C. §1311(a). As a result,
 22

1 discharge of pollutants from a point source is unlawful unless the discharger first
2 obtains a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit in
3 accordance with Section 402 of the Clean Water Act and the discharges fully
4 comply with the terms set out in the permit. 33 U.S.C. § 1342.
5

6 5.2 The Clean Water Act, Section 505(a), 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a), allows
7 any person to commence a civil action against another person who is alleged to
8 be in violation of an effluent standard or limitation under the Act. Effluent
9 standards or limitations are defined to include a permit or permit condition issued
10 under Section 402 of the Act. 33 U.S.C. § 1365(f).

11 5.3 The Washington Water Pollution Control Act, Chapter 90.48 RCW,
12 prohibits the unpermitted discharge of any materials into waters of the State that
13 cause or tend to cause pollution. RCW 90.48.080. All discharges must also
14 comply with Washington's Water Quality Standards (Chapter 173-201A WAC).
15 These standards, approved by EPA, are designed to protect designated uses of
16 state waters, including human health, aquatic life, and recreation and to protect
17 high quality waters from degradation. 33 U.S.C. § 1313; *see also* Chapter 173-
18 201A WAC; Chapter 173-200 WAC.
19
20
21
22

VI. FACTS

A. Defendants' Corporate Structure

6.1 Defendant Crown is a wholly owned subsidiary of Defendant Kinross. Together, Defendants own and operate the Buckhorn Mountain gold mine in Okanogan County, Washington. Defendant Crown owns and operates the Buckhorn Mine and Defendant Kinross has operational control over both Defendant Crown and the Buckhorn Mine.

6.2 Defendant Kinross effectively controls Crown's environmental compliance at the Buckhorn Mine and directs Crown's actions with regard to such compliance. Defendant Kinross submits (and has submitted) letters, data, and reports regarding operation of the Buckhorn Mine to regulatory agencies, including Ecology, regarding compliance with applicable environmental regulations. These include, but are not limited to, state and federal water pollution control laws.

6.3 Upon information and belief, the Environmental Compliance Manager for the Buckhorn Mine, Ms. Jacquelyn Nutt, is an employee of Defendant Kinross, not of Defendant Crown. Ms. Nutt has signed various letters and reports regarding Permit compliance at the Buckhorn Mine provided to Ecology on behalf of Crown.

1 6.4 Mr. Mark Ioli is a corporate officer of Crown. Upon information and
2 belief, Mr. Ioli is also the general manager of the Buckhorn Mine and is an
3 employee of Defendant Kinross.

4 6.5 Mr. Gregory Van Etter is a corporate officer of Crown. Based on
5 information and belief Mr. Van Etter is also a corporate officer and the current
6 President of Kinross.

7 6.6 Upon information and belief, Ms. Gina Myers is the site manager
8 and the former environmental compliance manager at the Buckhorn Mine and is
9 an employee of Defendant Kinross, not of Defendant Crown.

10 6.7 Upon information and belief, the profits from ore extraction from
11 the Buckhorn Mine, estimated at approximately 34 tons of gold, accrued to
12 Defendant Kinross, and not to Defendant Crown.

13 **B. Buckhorn Mine**

14 6.8 The Buckhorn Mine is an approximately 50 acre underground gold
15 mine constructed in the Myers Creek Mining district, approximately 3.5 miles
16 east of the town of Chesaw in Okanogan County.

17 6.9 Construction on the Buckhorn Mine began in 2007, and active ore
18 extraction began in approximately early 2008. The Buckhorn Mine consists of a
19 series of underground tunnels excavated beneath Buckhorn Mountain. Many of
20
21
22

1 these tunnels lie below the water table. During mining, aboveground features of
2 the Buckhorn Mine included access roads, maintenance shops, ore and
3 development rock stockpiles, detention ponds, and a mine water treatment plant
4 (MWTP). Some, but not all, of these aboveground features have been
5 decommissioned.

6 6.10 Ore extraction at the Buckhorn Mine lasted through approximately
7 2017. While in active operation, Defendants extracted approximately \$1.3 billion
8 worth of gold from the Buckhorn Mine. Crown ceased extractive activity and
9 began mine reclamation in 2017.

10 6.11 From construction through the present day, Defendants discharge
11 pollutants from the Buckhorn Mine to both ground and surface waters in and
12 around the Buckhorn Mine site. These pollutants include aluminum, ammonia,
13 arsenic, chloride, copper, iron, lead, nitrates, sulfate, total dissolved solids, and
14 zinc.

15 6.12 Discharges to groundwater travel anywhere from a few hundred to a
16 few thousand feet to ultimately discharge to surface waters at or near the
17 Buckhorn Mine site via hydraulic connectivity. Surface waters receiving
18 discharges include Gold Bowl, Nicholson, Marias, Ethel, Bolster, and Gold
19
20
21
22

1 Creeks. These creeks flow into Myers Creek and Toroda Creek, both of which
2 flow into the Kettle River, a tributary of the Columbia River.

3 6.13 Each of the aforementioned surface waters is a Water of the United
4 States under the Clean Water Act and a Water of the State under the Washington
5 Water Pollution Control Act. Groundwaters at the site are Waters of the State
6 under the Washington Water Pollution Control Act.

7 **C. Defendants' Discharge Permit**

8 6.14 Prior to construction of the Buckhorn Mine, Ecology conducted an
9 environmental review of the Buckhorn Mine proposal, culminating in September
10 2006 with a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS). The
11 FSEIS examined baseline water quality data collected for the Buckhorn Mine site
12 from 1992 to 1996 and from 2003 to 2006. In general, the FSEIS identified that
13 background water quality at the site exhibited little signs of impact from human
14 activity.

15 6.15 The FSEIS also identified the potential for impacts from the
16 Buckhorn Mine to surface and groundwaters in and around the Buckhorn Mine
17 site, including changes in water chemistry. The FSEIS specifically noted the
18 potential for acid generation and mobilization of metals due to storage of the
19 development rock/ore at the surface and the placement of development rock back
20
21
22

1 into the mine excavations. The FSEIS also indicated that the use of explosives at
2 the Buckhorn Mine could cause elevated levels of nitrates in surface and ground
3 waters.

4 6.16 Due to anticipated discharges from the operation of the Buckhorn
5 Mine, operation of the Buckhorn Mine required Crown to obtain an NPDES
6 permit for its discharges. Ecology issued the first permit for the Buckhorn Mine,
7 permit number WA0052434, in 2007. The Permit required Crown to capture and
8 treat all mine-contaminated water and authorized the discharge of treated mine
9 water and storm water subject to various operation, monitoring, and reporting
10 requirements in order to meet state Water Quality Standards and to preserve the
11 pre-mining quality of the surrounding waters. The monitoring requirements
12 included a network of monitoring wells, surface water monitoring stations, and
13 piezometers surrounding the Buckhorn Mine.

14 6.17 Ecology re-issued Crown's NPDES permit in February 2014, with
15 an effective date of March 1, 2014. Ecology again re-issued the permit with minor
16 revisions in April 29, 2014 and April 1, 2015 (collectively, the "Permit"). The
17 2014 Permit was administratively extended beyond the February 28, 2019
18 expiration date pending issuance of a renewed permit.

1 6.18 Crown appealed its 2014 Permit in February 2014 to the Washington
 2 Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB). The PCHB upheld the Permit. *Crown*
 3 *Resources Corp. v. Ecology*, PCHB No. 14-018, 2015 WL 4719130 (July 30,
 4 2015). Crown appealed the PCHB's decision to Ferry County Superior Court,
 5 which affirmed the PCHB and upheld the Permit as well. *Crown Resources Corp.*
 6 *v. Ecology*, Ferry Superior Court, No. 15-2-00075-0 (March 13, 2017). Crown
 7 appealed that decision to Division III of the Washington Court of Appeals, which
 8 affirmed as well. *Crown Res., Corp. v. Ecology*, 10 Wn. App.2d 1040, 2019 WL
 9 4942459 (Oct. 8, 2019)(unpublished). After the Court of Appeals denied Crown's
 10 reconsideration motion, Crown did not seek discretionary review of the Court of
 11 Appeals decision at the Supreme Court. Throughout its appeal of the 2014 Permit,
 12 Crown did not seek—or receive—a stay of the Permit pending appeal.
 13

14 6.19 Crown's Permit, as modified in 2015, requires that Crown capture
 15 and treat mine-impacted water at the Buckhorn Mine site, including stormwater,
 16 wastewater, and contaminated groundwater in order to protect waters in and
 17 around the Buckhorn Mine.
 18

19 **D. Defendants' Past and Ongoing Violations of Permit Conditions**
 20

21 6.20 Defendants have continuously violated the conditions and
 22 requirements of the Permit since its issuance in 2014, continuing Defendants'

1 history of permit violations throughout their operation of this mine. These
2 violations also constitute violations of Sections 301(a) and 402 of the CWA,
3 33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a), 1342, as well as Chapter 90.48 RCW. These violations are
4 set out in detail in Section II.a of the Notice Letter and listed in Attachment A
5 thereto, and are incorporated herein by reference. See Exhibit 1.

6

7 Effluent Limit Violations

8 6.21 Permit condition S1.A7 requires Crown to meet average monthly
9 numeric effluent limits in surface waters, groundwater, and seeps/springs for
10 chloride, nitrate and Nitrite, oil and grease, sulfate, total dissolved solids, total
11 suspended solids, specific conductance, ammonia, arsenic, copper, iron,
12 manganese, zinc and pH. See Tables 6, 7, 13 of Exhibit 1. Permit Condition S2
13 requires effluent limits be met at specified monitoring points of compliance. See
14 Table 13 Exhibit 1. The Permit contained interim limits for both surface and
15 groundwater points of compliance that were applicable from March 1, 2014 to
16 December 31, 2014. The final limits, applicable to the violations included in this
17 Complaint, became effective on January 1, 2015.

18 6.22 Crown violated Section 301(a) every day since March 5, 2015, by
19 discharging various pollutants from the Buckhorn Mine in excess of the limits set
20 out in the Permit. The specific dates on which Crown monitored compliance
21
22

1 points to calculate the monthly average values are listed in Attachment A to the
2 Notice Letter. See Exhibit 1. These violations are ongoing.

3 Failure to Maintain Capture Zone

4 6.23 Permit Condition S1.A.2.1 requires Crown to ensure that all water
5 impacted by the mining operation is captured, routed to a treatment plant, and
6 treated to meet effluent limits before discharge. The Permit defines this concept
7 as a “Capture Zone,” a three-dimensional area representing “the farthest extent
8 from the mine that mine-related contaminants in groundwater and surface water
9 are allowed.”

10 6.24 The monitoring results from the surrounding surface waters and
11 ground waters show that contaminants from the Buckhorn Mine have
12 consistently escaped the Capture Zone in violation of the Permit. Crown has
13 failed to maintain the Capture Zone every day since March 5, 2015, in violation
14 of the Permit and of the Clean Water Act. These violations are ongoing.

15 Trigger Exceedance Violations

16 6.25 Permit Condition S2 requires Crown to monitor specified points of
17 compliance for trigger level concentrations of manganese, sulfate and total
18 suspended solids. Crown must then report levels above the trigger level to
19 Ecology and submit a written plan if the results exceed a specified level.

1 6.26 For manganese, Condition S2, Table 14, establishes a trigger level
2 at MW-4 of 220 µg/L. Once this level is exceeded, Crown must: (1) report the
3 result to Ecology within 72 hours of receipt of the data; and (2) if the result
4 exceeds 220 µg/L in the following month, submit a written plan for evaluation to
5 Ecology within one week of the receipt of the data. Crown's monthly discharge
6 monitoring reports (DMRs) show it exceeded the manganese trigger each month
7 from June 2015 to November 2015, February and March 2016, April 2017, and
8 August 2017. Crown violated the Permit by failing to notify Ecology of these
9 exceedances within 72 hours. Crown also violated the Permit by failing to submit
10 a written plan for evaluation to Ecology within one week of receipt of the data
11 for July, August, September, October, and November 2015, and March 2016.
12

13 6.27 For sulfate, Condition S2, Table 13, establishes a trigger level at
14 SW-4 of 72 mg/L. Once this level is exceeded, Crown must: (1) report the result
15 to Ecology within 72 hours of receipt of the data; and (2) if the result exceeds
16 72 mg/L in the following month, submit a written plan for evaluation to Ecology
17 within one week of the receipt of the data. Crown's DMRs show it exceeded the
18 sulfate trigger in May 2016. Crown violated the Permit by failing to notify
19 Ecology of these exceedances within 72 hours.
20

1 6.28 For total suspended solids, Condition S2, Table 13, establishes a
2 trigger level at SW-4 and SW-5 of 20 mg/L. Once this level is exceeded, Crown
3 must: (1) report the result to Ecology within 72 hours of receipt of the data; and
4 (2) if the result exceeds 20 mg/L in the following month, submit a written plan
5 for evaluation to Ecology within one week of the receipt of the data. Crown's
6 DMRs show it exceeded the total suspended solids trigger at SW-4 and SW-5 in
7 May 2017. Crown violated the Permit by failing to notify Ecology of these
8 exceedances within 72 hours.

9
10 6.29 Permit Condition S3.D requires Crown to take immediate action to
11 stop noncompliance with the Permit which leads to violations and to correct the
12 underlying problem. Crown failed to take this action for each of the violations
13 contained in this Complaint, in the Notice Letter and in Attachment A thereto.

14
15 Reporting Violations

16 6.30 Permit Condition S3.D.a requires Crown to report to Ecology within
17 24 hours of discovery any failure of the groundwater Capture Zone.

18 6.31 The Discharge Monitoring Report data reported by Crown shows a
19 continuing failure of the Capture Zone for every day of the statute of limitations.
20 However, Crown did not report this failure to Ecology as required under the
21 Permit. This is a violation of the Permit for every day of the statute of limitations.

1 6.32 Permit Condition S3.D.b requires Crown to report any
2 noncompliance with the Permit that may endanger health or the environment to
3 Ecology within 24 hours of discovery.

4 6.33 Each of the violations described in this Complaint and in the Notice
5 Letter endangers health and/or the environment. Crown violated the reporting
6 requirement for each violation listed in this Complaint and in the Notice Letter.

7 6.34 Permit Condition S3.D.c requires Crown to submit a written report
8 to Ecology within five days of discovery of certain reportable events listed in
9 Conditions S3.D.a or S3.D.b in the Permit.

10 6.35 For each of the permit violations listed in this complaint and in the
11 Notice Letter, Crown failed to provide the required written report to Ecology
12 within five days. Each of these failures is a further violation of the Permit.

13 Notification and Planning Violations

14 6.36 Condition S6 of the Permit requires Crown to implement actions in
15 the Adaptive Management Plan for Water Quality and to update the Adaptive
16 Management Plan. The deadline for Crown to submit an approvable Adaptive
17 Management Plan was July 1, 2014.

18 6.37 Crown submitted an Adaptive Management Plan to Ecology that
19 was not approvable. To this day, Crown has not submitted an approvable

1 Adaptive Management Plan to Ecology. Crown has thus violated the Permit on
2 every day since July 1, 2014.

3 6.38 Permit Condition S16 requires Crown to submit a plan for operating
4 the MWTP during rehabilitation of the Buckhorn Mine and the post closure phase
5 to Ecology 90 days prior to mine closure.

6 6.39 Upon information and belief, mine closure occurred in
7 approximately May 2017.

8 6.40 Crown did not submit a plan for operation of the MWTP during
9 rehabilitation until November 10, 2017. Crown thus violated Condition S16
10 every day from 90 days prior to mine closure until November 10, 2017.

11 6.41 Permit Condition G4 requires Crown to notify Ecology of planned
12 physical alterations to the facility that will result in a significant change in or an
13 increase of pollutants discharged.

14 6.42 Upon information and belief, Crown dismantled the MWTP in 2017
15 and then did not install a new plant for six months. Crown failed to notify Ecology
16 of an increase in pollutants that would be discharged when Crown dismantled the
17 MWTP. Crown has thus been in violation of Condition G4 during this period.

18 6.43 Permit Condition G5 requires Crown to provide an engineering
19 report and plans to Ecology prior to modifying any wastewater control facilities.

6.44 Crown dismantled and replaced the MWTP without submitting the required materials to Ecology. Crown thus violated the Permit.

VII. CAUSES OF ACTION

**First Cause of Action
Violations of the Federal Clean Water Act
(33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.)**

7.1 Plaintiff re-alleges the facts set out in the Paragraphs 1 through 6.44 and in the Notice Letter attached hereto as Exhibit 1, as though fully set out herein.

7.2 Section 301 of the Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants from a point source to waters of the United States except as authorized pursuant to a valid permit under Clean Water Act Section 402. 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a). Section 301 also prohibits violations of effluent limitations established pursuant to the Clean Water Act, including those promulgated by states. 33 U.S.C. §1311(b)(1)(C). Violations of an NPDES permit constitute violations of the Clean Water Act.

7.3 Section 505 of the Clean Water Act permits citizen suits against any person who is alleged to be in violation of an “effluent standard or limitation,” including those promulgated pursuant to Section 301 of the Act and including the terms and conditions of an NPDES permit. 33 U.S.C § 1365(a), (f).

7.4 Defendants' actions as set out above and in the Notice Letter constitute a discharge of pollutants in violation of applicable effluent standards or limitations.

7.5 Defendants' violations are continuing, ongoing, and reasonably likely to reoccur. Any and all additional violations of the CWA which occur after those described in Plaintiff's Notice Letter but before a final decision in this action should be considered continuing violations subject to this complaint.

Second Cause of Action Violations of Washington Water Pollution Control Act (Chapter 90.48 RCW)

7.6 Plaintiff re-alleges the facts set out in Paragraphs 1 through 6.44 as though fully set out herein.

7.7 The Washington Water Pollution Control Act prohibits the unpermitted discharge of any materials into waters of the state that cause or tend to cause pollution. The Washington Water Pollution Control Act and federal Clean Water Act also require Ecology to develop Water Quality Standards (Chapter 173-201A) that are protective of designated uses of state waters, including suitability for aquatic life and recreation. These Water Quality Standards contain numeric and narrative criteria and the antidegradation policy, and have been approved by EPA as part of Washington's authorized federal

1 Clean Water Act program. All actions within state waters must comply with the
2 Water Quality Standards.

3 7.8 Defendants' actions as set out above violate the Washington Water
4 Pollution Control Act's ban on the unpermitted discharge of matter causing or
5 tending to cause pollution. Defendants' discharges also violate applicable
6 Washington Water Quality Standards, and the terms and conditions of the permit
7 issued for the Mine.

8

9 **VIII. RELIEF REQUESTED**

10 WHEREFORE, the State respectfully requests that this Court:

11 A. Adjudge and decree that Defendants' conduct complained of herein
12 violates, and continues to violate, the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §
13 1251 *et seq.*, and the Washington Water Pollution Control Act,
14 Chapter 90.48 RCW;

15 B. Order Defendants to take all such actions necessary to comply with
16 the Clean Water Act, the Washington Water Pollution Control Act,
17 and the terms of their NPDES Permit;

18 C. Order Defendants to pay civil penalties pursuant to Sections 309(d)
19 and 505(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1319(d) and
20 1365(a), and 40 C.F.R. § 19;

21

22

1 D. Issuing temporary and/or permanent injunctive relief against
2 Defendants, including ordering Defendants to cease all activities that
3 violate the Clean Water Act, the Washington Water Pollution Control
4 Act, and/or the terms and conditions of their NPDES permit.
5
6 E. Award Plaintiff the costs of litigation, including reasonable attorneys'
7 and expert witness fees;
8
9 F. Such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
DATED this 7th day of May, 2020.

**ROBERT W. FERGUSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

13 /s/ Kelly T. Wood
14 Kelly T. Wood, WSBA #40067
15 Assistant Attorney General
16 Washington Office of the Attorney General
17 Environmental Protection Division
18 800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000, TB-14
19 Seattle, WA 98104-3188
20 (206) 326-5493
21
22